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Barber Lecturer Kate Flint to speak on "Flash! Photography, Writing, and Surprising Illumination"

Summary: The interdisciplinary topic will explore the language, the associations, and the poetics of sudden, startling, flashes of light.

(September 20, 2010)-Kate Flint, professor of English at Rutgers University, will give the 2010–11 Barber Lecture at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, October 11, 2010, in Recital Hall, Humanities Fine Arts. Flint's lecture, "Flash! Photography, Writing, and Surprising Illumination," will explore the language, the associations, and the poetics of sudden, startling, flashes of light. The lecture is free and open to the public. A reception follows.

"In particular," shares Flint, "I'll look at the history of flash photography and the ways in which flash photography has been described and narrated, with the overall aim of exploring certain important aspects of the relationship between photography, light, and language from the invention of flash photography to the present day. I'll examine how the language of photography moves between art and science, between specialist aesthetics and the popular imagination, between fascination and revulsion, and how it both borrows from literature and also feeds into imagery of violence, exposure, and revelation."

A specialist in the areas of literature and visual culture, Victorian literature, cross cultural contacts, and gender and sexuality, Flint earned a doctorate at the University of Oxford. She is the author of *The Transatlantic Indian, 1776–1930*, *The Victorians and the Visual Imagination*, and *The Woman Reader, 1837–1914*. She is currently working on a new book under the same title as the talk she will present as the Barber Lecturer.

"We're delighted and honored to host Professor Flint as this year's Barber Lecturer," says Bradley Deane, associate professor of English at Morris and coordinator of the English Discipline. "Professor Flint is gathering a reputation as one of the most creative and provocative scholars in her field, and the wonderful topic of her presentation deserves the attention of people interested in a wide range of fields, from literature and the visual arts to psychology and the sciences. We hope that students, faculty, and staff will join us in learning about this intriguing interdisciplinary topic, and we heartily welcome visitors from the general public as well."

The Barber Lecture Series is made possible by a gift to the University of Minnesota, Morris from Laird Barber, professor emeritus of English, and the late Dorothy Barber.

Free and convenient parking is available in the North Lot. For more information, contact the [Division of the Humanities](#) at 320-589-6250.

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